**PRAY • VOLUNTEERS** 

#### Review:

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

Matthew 5:13

- Those who follow Jesus are the world's greatest blessing.
- Christians who don't bless others are worthless to the world.

# The Science of Salt and Light

**TODAY: MOST DIFFICULT LESSON // DRY TONGUES** 

Salt does its work as it **OSES itself** for a greater cause.

MOST DIFFICULT LESSON

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.

Matthew 5:14-15

ON A PEDESTAL, BUT REAL LIFE, WHY? AS SALT, SHOULDN'T WE EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS?
SALT DOESN'T BENEFIT SALT. LIGHT, LIGHT / SALT -> SHAKEN / LIGHT -> IN THE DARK

A light's only good if it's put in a place of <u>darkness</u>.

WE WANT TO LIVE FOR US BUT JESUS CALLS US TO LIVE FROM US // TRANSITION TO 2 COR 4:6-7 // FABERGE EGG, MONA LISA, CAVIAR & TRUFFLE, GREAT TREASURE // MOST DIFFICULT LESSON

## 2 Corinthians 4:8-18

Start with v. 16.

MADE-UP REASONS TO FEEL BAD (KIM KARDASHIAN IS SICK) BUT...

Skip over to 2 Corinthians 11:24-29

Come back to v. 17

LIGHT? STONES NOT HEAVY ENOUGH TO KEEP HIM DOWN. MOMENTARY? 10 MINS, 2 WKS, 40 YRS
PERSPECTIVE BUT MORE THAN PERSPECTIVE

GLORY: wonderful, weighty, beautiful, or significant.

The most difficult lesson you will ever learn:

Christian suffering leads to glory.

CHRISTIAN... SUFFERING... GLORY > NO PAIN, NO GAIN? PIE-IN-SKY? EARTHY!! I'LL SHOW YOU, V. 8

Now do 8-15

SHOW PARALLEL OF GIVEN OVER TO DEATH / PAUL IS EMBRACING HIS SUFFERING BECAUSE IN EVERY MOMENT OF SUFFERING HE EXPERIENCES MORE DEEPLY THE LIFE OF JESUS

... leads to glory: you get more **les us**.

### ... leads to glory: others get more Jesus.

A LITTLE DEATH IN YOU BRINGS LIFE TO OTHERS, THAT'S SALT AND LIGHT

#### ... leads to glory: God gets more worship.

THAT'S WHY THIS IS SUCH A HARD LESSON TO LEARN... IT'S ALL ABOUT GOD'S GLORY!

GOD THE MANAGER, NO. I AM A POT MADE OF MUD...

WHEN CHRISTIANS SUFFER AS CHRISTIANS... AND EVERYONE IS BLESSED // VIDEO

### **Take It Home**

WE DON'T DEAL WITH THE SUFFERING OF PAUL OR THE PEOPLE IN THE VIDEO...

Has someone ticked you off?

Has someone cursed at your face?

Has someone called you a name?

Has someone treated you unfairly?

Has someone stabbed you in the back?

Has someone cut you off in traffic?

REALLY? AND THAT UPSET YOU?! // HAS SOMEONE FLOGGED YOU? ... GET OVER IT!
JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED, PAUL FACED DEATH, WE AVOID INCONVENIENCE AND SALT OURSELVES

Is it hard to bless someone who ticked you off?

Is it hard to keep your cool when someone mistreats you?

Is it hard to keep your faith when tragedy hits?

Is it hard to bless others when they don't believe what you believe?

YES. BUT CHRISTIAN SUFFERING LEADS TO GLORY

WHEN CHRISTIANS EMBRACE HARDSHIP AS CHRISTIANS SHOULD, THE WORLD IS BLESSED.

ASIDE: EMBRACE THOSE MOMENTS WHEN PART OF YOU HAS TO DIE TAKE OUT YOUR CONNECT CARD • SOMETHING ON THAT CARD IS FOR YOU EMBRACE THE MOMENT OF SURRENDER, NOW, DAILY & BAPTISM